

The Farmington Times

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GERMANY'S DOUBLE DEALING

Germany's official word it appears cannot be depended upon under any conditions, and she has as little respect for the rights of others as for her solemn pledges. Germany's ruthless disregard of Belgium's neutrality in forcibly invading that little kingdom, butchering her people and devastating her homes and cities because the latter insisted on maintaining her neutrality, was but a natural manifestation of the Pan-Germanic spirit. Her piratical submarine warfare on merchantmen, torpedoing and sinking them without warning—or search for contraband freight, was but another manifestation of her disregard of world opinion and all accepted rules of international warfare.

When called to account for this latter by the United States and warned to desist, Germany acknowledged her violations, conceded that the claims of the United States were just, promised indemnity (?) for the lives of American citizens ruthlessly murdered by her piratical practice, and pledged herself to observe the rules of warfare—of warning, search and an opportunity for passengers and crew to escape with their lives. What did her pledges amount to? Like the treaty rites of Belgium they were as so many "scraps of paper". There was no sincerity back of them. As a matter of expediency she thrust them aside as of no value or binding effect, and gave notice of the briefest character that she purposed to resume her ruthless piratical submarine warfare, to torpedo and sink without warning any neutral, as well as belligerent, vessels that ventured within a sea boundary of her naming—that they would enter this proscribed area at their peril. It was a bald repudiation of her pledged word to the United States to respect American life and neutral rights on the high seas—another manifestation that her word and pledges were but diplomatic treachery.

All this time Germany was professing friendship for the United States, a desire to remain on friendly terms and cement a long-standing friendship. She knew she was outraging American confidence in her word and the desire of the American people to avoid war, and that her last act was a contemptuous affront to American patience that could not be brooked with national honor, so days before she uttered her intention to resume her murderous submarine practice, she began to plot and conspire against the United States. Her Foreign Secretary, Herr Zimmerman, by instructions sent through the German Minister at Washington, sought to inveigle Mexico, by promises of financial help and the inspiration of a vain hope of recovering Texas, New Mexico and Nevada, to seduce Japan to join her in a war against the United States. This while Germany was all the while professing the greatest friendship and consideration for the United States. It there ever had been any doubt that President Wilson was fully justified in severing diplomatic relations with Germany—which there never was—this piece of absurd treachery would forever have removed that doubt.

The head Stone of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee showed himself up as one of the spectacular misfits in the closing session of the Sixty-fourth Congress.

That old mummified rule of the United States Senate that permits a one-man objection to block the progress of the most important legislation, and that sanctions limitless talk by any leather-lunged Senator on any subject or no subject at all to kill time, ought to be dumped without ceremony into the ash heap. As long as it stands there will always be some LaFollette using it to clog the Senate's proceedings.

The eleven Senators who conducted the filibuster that defeated the President's proposed defense plan against the German submarine menace, and humiliated this nation in the eyes of the world, have succeeded in placing themselves in the spotlight of universal contempt. The castigation they are visiting all over the country is as deserved as it is severe. And our own "Gana-shue" Bill Stone is not faring much better for his inconsistency, the shibboleth he suggested to their minds and the encouragement it afforded these "slackers" to keep up their filibuster.

FOR FOUR YEARS MORE

The first term of Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States closed by constitutional limitation at noon, Sunday, March 4, and a few minutes after the stroke of twelve, the oath of office for a second term of four years, to which he had been elected, was administered to him by the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. As the 4th of March fell on Sunday and the formal public inauguration would not take place until the following day, the oath of office was administered at this time so that there might not be an interim in which the country would be without a President.

The oath was taken in the President's official room in the National Capitol in the presence of Mrs. Wilson, members of the Cabinet, a few friends of the President, and such public officials as happened to be in the room transacting official business when the noon hour arrived. This, in its quiet simplicity, was the real inauguration of President Wilson's second term. The formal and more spectacular inauguration, in conformity to common usage and popular demand for a public demonstration, on Monday, was accompanied with the usual pomp, ceremony and parade that have become a regular feature of national inauguration ceremonies. But a more pronounced array of military display and precaution was apparent because of the tense and critical conditions confronting the country. Along Pennsylvania Avenue from the Whitehouse to the Capitol, on either side, was a line of soldiers through which the Presidential party was conducted to the Capitol. The oath of office was again administered to Mr. Wilson, following which he delivered his inaugural address, and then reviewed the great patriotic pageant that took part in the ceremony.

The inaugural address was brief—only about fifteen hundred words—and what he had to say dealt principally with the grave situation in which our acute foreign relations growing out of the European war have placed us. A most significant paragraph of the address, characteristic of the man giving it utterance, is:

"As some of the injuries done us have become intolerable we have still been clear that we wished nothing for ourselves that we were not ready to demand for all mankind—fair dealing, justice, the freedom to live and be at ease against organized wrong. It is in this spirit and with this thought that we have grown more and more aware, more and more certain that the part we wished to play was the part of those who mean to vindicate and fortify peace. We have been obliged to arm ourselves to make good our claim to a certain minimum of right and of freedom of action. We stand firm in armed neutrality, since it seems that in no other way we can demonstrate what it is we insist upon and cannot forego. We may even be drawn on, by circumstances, not by our own purpose or desire, to a more active assertion of our rights as we see them and a more immediate association with the great struggle itself. But nothing will alter our thought or our purpose. They are too clear to be obscured. They are too deeply rooted in the principles of our national life to be altered. We desire neither conquest nor advantage. We wish nothing that can be had only at the cost of another people. We have always professed unselfish purpose and we covet the opportunity to prove that our professions are sincere."

And thus begins another four years of our country's destiny under the guidance and direction of a man as its Chief Executive who has shown that he knows how to keep his head in times of great moment and critical situations, and who, with a passionate desire for peace, is determined to uphold the honor of the nation and maintain those principles of human rights and popular government for which the United States stands. All true Americans are with him in this high patriotic motive and will stand by him in the thing which he says he "shall count upon, the thing without which neither counsel nor action will avail, the unity of America—an America united in feeling, in purpose, and in vision of duty, of opportunity and of service."

The few Congressmen and the eleven Senators who opposed the arming of American merchant ships for defense against German submarines, lack have a perfect right, under cur-

free institutions, to their opinions—however un-American their opinions may be—and the same right to express them. It is not therein that the sin of the eleven Senators against their nation and its institutions lies. Their sin rests in the act of using one of the most absurd rules that any legislative body ever tied its hands with to prevent, in the dying hours of Congress, the Senate from carrying out the sentiment and wishes of an overwhelming majority of both branches of Congress, the President and the American people. Their act was a crime against the rule of the people and the principle that "all just government derives its powers from the consent of the governed," as expressed by the majority of the people.

WHY NOT MOOTHART?

The next general election is quite a long way off, but the positive announcement of Congressman Hensley of this district, that he would not be a candidate again, has caused some of those who look ahead to cast about for his probable successor. In this connection St. Francois county's efficient, watchful and forward looking Representative in the General Assembly of the State, G. W. Moothart, has been suggested by some of his friends as a most suitable man for the Democratic nomination for Congressman from the Thirtieth district to the Sixty-sixth Congress.

Mr. Moothart has heretofore been suggested for Congressional Representative, but he declined to have his name used in that connection, probably because he did not wish to enter into the contest with another man from his own county in the field. That obstacle now being removed by Mr. Hensley's announcement, his friends believe he may consider making the race. Mr. Moothart is widely and favorably known, and has students of his business colleges scattered all over the district who would be his warm adherents. This fact, coupled with his energy, activity and popular address, would make him a strong candidate for the Democrats if they should nominate him.

COLT BLAMES POLITICS FOR DEFENSE WEAKNESS

New York, March 3.—(By U. P.)—"Exposure of the German plot to embargo Mexico and Japan in war with the United States, should turn the attention of the entire country to the weakness of our defense system and to support of universal military service," Col. Joseph H. Colt, chairman of the board of trustees of the American Defense Society, declared in a statement to the United Press today.

"Only one thing will give us any sort of a chance to hold our own against Germany or any other nation. That is speedy breaking down of party lines in Congress so that the question of defense can be considered by a national legislature united for Americanism."

"Politics in the past has divided the American Congress against itself with the result that our legislators, chosen to give the best that is in them for unselfish devotion to the nation, have brought less of defense than anything else."

"The test hour for those legislators is here."

"It may interest them to know that there are fewer men in the United States regular army than there are licensed chauffeurs in New York; and the 36,000 men needed to fill the vacancies in our regular navy would give full population to a city of no mean size."

"Our coast artillery is unmanned and its guns are outranged by the guns of the first class ships now in European war service. I do not believe our navy is big or powerful enough to repel invasion."

"These defects must be remedied; and only a united Congress, unselfish, American and working for the United States, can change them."

FESTUS WINS FROM STE. GENEVIEVE

The Festus High School boys and the Ste. Genevieve High School boys played a fast, close game of basketball on the Farmington court last Saturday night, Festus winning by a score of 39 to 35, thereby clinching the championship of the northern division of the Lead Belt League.

The game started off slow but soon both teams were playing with lots of "pop" and vim, fighting hard for victory. Neither team scored until the first half ended with the score 17 to 9 in favor of Ste. Genevieve. The second half started off with both teams fighting harder than in the first, and soon Festus began to pile up a nice score. About the middle of the half the score was tied for a short time but soon Festus had the score in their favor and kept it there until the referee blew the final whistle. The final score as above stated was 39 to 35 in favor of Festus.

There were no special stars but were all stars, and all played clean basketball. The game was satisfactorily refereed by Mr. Bosick of Illinois. Quite a few from Festus and Ste. Genevieve attended the game to "root" for their schools.

A SPLENDID HOME FOR SALE CHEAP

I desire to sell my home place, in Doss addition, Farmington, and would like to have an offer on same. Everything in first-class condition. Bldg. should be made to Haile & Co., realty dealers, Farmington, Mo. Mike W. O'Sullivan.

PRESIDENT SCORES FOSSILIZED RULES OF THE U. S. SENATE

The fossilized rules of the United States Senate that place no limit on debate and encourages filibustering, enabled a few self-opinionated Senators, at the constitutional termination of the Sixty-fourth Congress, to defeat the President's plans of meeting the submarine menace and practically tying his hands. After the dissolution of Congress, the President issued the following stinging and just rebuke:

"The termination of the last session of the Sixty-fourth Congress by constitutional limitation discloses a situation unparalleled in the history of the country, perhaps unparalleled in the history of any modern Government."

"In the immediate presence of a crisis fraught with more subtle and far-reaching possibilities of national danger than any other the Government has known within the whole history of its international relations, the Congress has been unable to act either to safeguard the country or to vindicate the elementary rights of its citizens."

"More than 500 of the 531 members of the two houses were ready and anxious to act; the House of Representatives had acted by an overwhelming majority; but the Senate was unable to act because a little group of 11 Senators had determined that it should not."

Effect of Senate Rules.

"The Senate has no rules by which debate can be limited or brought to an end, no rules by which dilatory tactics of any kind can be prevented. A single member can stand in the way of action if he have but the physical endurance. The result in this case is a complete paralysis alike of the legislative and of the executive branches of the Government."

"This inability of the Senate to act has rendered some of the most necessary legislation of the session impossible, at a time when the need for it was most pressing and most evident. The bill which should have permitted such combinations of capital and of organization in the export and import trade of the country as the circumstances of international competition have made imperative—a bill which the business judgment of the whole country approved and demanded—has failed."

Big Measures Fail to Pass.

The opposition of one or two Senators has made it impossible to increase the membership of the Interstate Commerce Commission or to give it the altered organization necessary for its efficiency.

"The conservation bill which should have released for immediate use the mineral resources which are still locked up in the public lands, now that their release is more imperatively necessary than ever, and the bill which would have made the unused water power of the country immediately available for industry have both failed, though they have been under consideration throughout the session of two Congresses and have been twice passed by the House of Representatives."

"The appropriations for the army have failed, along with the appropriations for the civil establishment of the Government, the appropriations for the military academy at West Point, and the general deficiency bill."

"It has proved impossible to extend the powers of the Shipping Board to meet the specific needs of the new situation into which our commerce has been forced, or to increase the gold reserve of our national banking system to meet the unusual circumstances of the existing financial situation."

Extra Session Not a Cure.

"It would not cure the difficulty to call the Sixty-fifth Congress in extraordinary session. The paralysis of the Senate would remain. The purpose and the spirit of action are not lacking, no. The Congress is more definitely united in thought and purpose at this moment, I venture to say, than it has been within the memory of any man now in its membership. There is not only the most united patriotic purpose, but the objects members have in view are perfectly clear and definite."

"But the Senate cannot act unless its leaders can obtain unanimous consent. Its majority is powerless, helpless. In the midst of a crisis of extraordinary peril, when only definite and decided action can make the nation safe or shield it from war itself by the aggression of others, action is impossible."

"Although as a matter of fact the nation and the representatives of the nation stand back of the Executive with unprecedented unanimity and spirit, the impression made abroad will, of course, be that it is not so, and that other Governments may act as they please without fear that this Government can do anything at all. We cannot explain. The explanation is incredible. The Senate of the United States is the only legislative body in the world which cannot act when its majority is ready for action. A little group of wilful men representing no opinion but their own have rendered the great Government of the United States helpless and contemptible."

Alter Rules, the Remedy.

"The remedy! There is but one remedy. The only remedy is that the rules of the Senate shall be so altered that it can act. The country can be relied upon to draw the moral. I believe that the Senate can be relied on to supply the means of action and save the country from disaster."

At the same time the President authorized the further statement that what rendered the situation more grave than it had been supposed was the discovery that, while the President, under his general constitutional powers, could do much of what he had asked the Congress to empower him to do, it had been found that there were certain old statutes, as yet unrepelled which raised insuperable practical obstacles and virtually nullified his power.

John H. Stam spent Monday and Tuesday in Flat River.

ALWAYS DEPENDABLE
MEETS ALL DEMANDS

—The—

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(ESTABLISHED 1868)

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Watches, clocks and jewelry repaired and put in first-class condition.

POLICE AND ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Representative Frank Farris, floor leader of the House, in a recent talk before a political club, expressed himself in favor of one police commissioner to preside over the St. Louis force. Eastern cities like New York and Boston have long ago abandoned police boards and in their place a single commissioner manages the Police Department. Outside of one instance in New York the single commissioner brought about higher police efficiency than was ever in evidence under the old system of a half dozen or more commissioners. Boston is noted for its police efficiency under one commissioner.

In New York and Boston the commissioner gives the job his entire time and is paid a good salary. The commissioner is selected by the Mayor, but the appointment must have the approval of the Governor; through this method of selection it is claimed a better type of man is approved.

Massachusetts and Boston have had several Governors and Mayors, Democrats and Republicans, but the police commissioner has not been changed in years for the reason that a very high-class man holds the position. The people of Boston will not allow petty politics to interfere with efficiency. The State Legislature would be doing St. Louis a great favor by changing police management as it is now, to that of a single commissioner who could be held responsible and could be removed if found unequal to the job.

Election Commissioners.

Any person having business with the Election Department of St. Louis is immediately struck with the absurdity of having four commissioners to oversee that department. The real facts are, one rarely ever sees any of the commissioners in the office. There is no work to occupy their time. The clerical force is under the supervision of a bright young woman who manages the office. The commissioners draw the big salaries for doing absolutely nothing. One commissioner would be sufficient to do the work of

the office, but the politicians would hardly agree to that—each party must share in the salary graft—so two men, at least, must be supplied to fill a necessary office, although outside of election time there is little work for the commissioners to do.

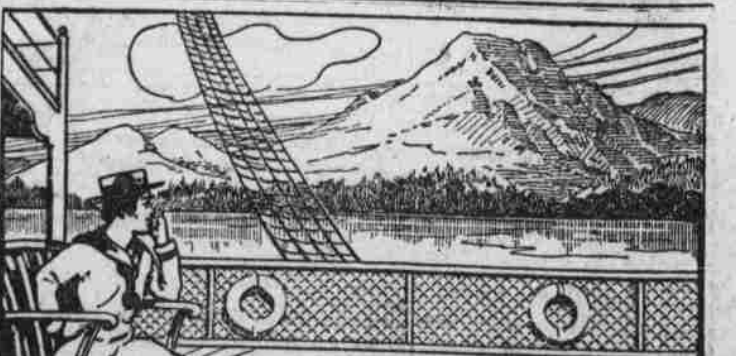
* Cut down in expenses of this office would please St. Louis taxpayers very much.—The Taxpayer, St. Louis.

A Philadelphia preacher in his Labor Day sermon said he "had no sympathy for any movement which originates merely from a desire to boost wages, because such a movement is not sufficiently actuated by high ideals." Since statistics show that low wages tend to poverty, and poverty forces many to commit crime, what "ideal" could be higher than one that seeks a higher wage scale so that those who must be wage earners can receive enough to provide their families but not alone the bare necessities but some of the comforts of life? The main object of Modern Woodmen of America is to give Old Poverty a knock-out blow and it knows that the higher the wages, the more easy it works. We think our Philadelphia brother was seeking more to say something that sounded eloquent, rather than what a lover of mankind would say after more thoughtful consideration.

When to Take Chamberlain's Tablets

When you feel dull and stupid after eating.
When constipated or bilious.
When you have a sick headache.
When you have a sour stomach.
When you belch after eating.
When you have indigestion.
When nervous or depondent.
When you have no relish for your meals.
When your liver is torpid.
Obtainable everywhere. (adv.)

Fears of Uncle Sam becoming effeminate! It is thus that genial temperament is often slandered. It is only a little while ago that we were talking of brave, self-sacrificing France as a decadent nation.



Travel Joys

come to those who have the money to make leisurely trips. Why don't you plan to see something of the country this year? It's mighty good country to get acquainted with!

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